

MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL INFORMATION

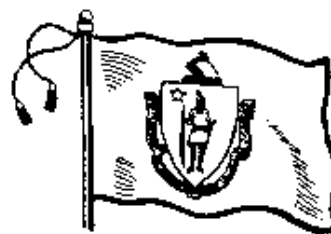
Admitted to Union (6th State): 1788
Population: 6,379,304

Capital: Boston
Nickname: Bay State

The State Seal



The State Flag



The State Seal, adopted by Governor John Hancock and the Council on December 13, 1780 and made official by the General Court on June 4, 1885, is circular and bears a representation of the arms of the Commonwealth encircled with the words "Sigillum Reipublicae Massachusettensis" (Seal of the Republic of Massachusetts). The arms, according to legislative enactment, consists of "a shield having a blue field or surface with an Indian thereon, dressed in a shirt and moccasins, holding in his right hand a bow, and in his left hand an arrow, point downward, all of gold; and in the upper corner of the field, above his right arm, bent at the elbow, clothed and ruffled, with the hand grasping a broadsword."

The State Flag is white, bearing on both sides a representation of the coat of arms. It was adopted in its final form in 1971; before that, the obverse side depicted a pine tree.

The State Flower



The Mayflower

The State Fish



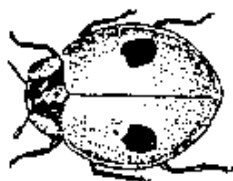
The Cod, a soft-finned fish, usually 10-20bs. A sculpture of a cod hangs in the House of Representatives as a tribute to this useful aquatic creature.

The State Bird



The Black Capped Chickadee

The State Insect



The Lady Bug

The State Tree



The American Elm was adopted as the official tree March 21, 1941 to commemorate the fact that General George Washington took command of the Continental Army beneath one on Cambridge Common in 1775.

The State Dog



The Boston Terrier, the first purebred dog developed in America (1869), is a cross between an English bulldog and an English terrier.

Beverage: Cranberry Juice
Dessert: Boston Cream Pie

Muffin: The Corn Muffin
Cookie: Chocolate Chip

Horse: The Morgan Horse
Bean: Navy Bean